

a remote intelligent communication (RIC) unit contained within a casing of the electronic apparatus and including a control circuit that is uninvolved in normal operations of the electronic apparatus and that enables tracking of the electronic apparatus, said RIC unit operable to receive a signal transmitted from an interrogator, to determine whether the signal is intended for the anti-theft device and whether the signal includes a shut-off command and, if so, to produce a shut-off signal in response; and

a shut-off unit coupled with a power source of the electronic apparatus, said shut-off unit in a shut-off state preventing a flow of electricity via the power source in accordance with said shut-off signal.

6. (Twice Amended) A method of operating an anti-theft device in cooperation with an electronic apparatus, the anti-theft device including a remote intelligent communication (RIC) unit contained within a casing of said electronic apparatus and including a control circuit that is uninvolved in normal operations of the electronic apparatus and that receives a signal broadcast from an interrogator, determines whether the signal is intended for the anti-theft device and whether the signal includes a shut-off command and, if so, produces a shut-off signal in response, and a shut-off unit comprised of components of the RIC unit and coupled with a power source of the electronic apparatus, the method comprising:

- (a) tracking the electronic apparatus with the remote intelligent communication (RIC) unit; and
- (b) preventing with the shut-off unit a flow of electricity via the power source in accordance with the shut-off signal.

11. (Twice Amended) An anti-theft device for shutting off an operable electronic apparatus subsequent to the electronic apparatus being stolen from its owner, the anti-theft device comprising:

a communication unit incorporated within the casing of the electronic apparatus and comprising:

a receiver for receiving a signal transmitted from an interrogator, and

a control circuit uninvolved in normal operations of the electronic apparatus coupled to the receiver for determining whether the received signal is intended for the anti-theft device and, if so, for determining whether the signal includes an electronic apparatus shut-off command generated by the interrogator in response to a notification from the owner that the electronic apparatus has been stolen, and, if so, for producing a shut-off signal, and

a power blocking circuit responsive to the shut-off signal for placing the electronic apparatus in a shut-off state by blocking the flow of electricity from a power source of the electronic apparatus.

12. (Amended) The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the communication unit further comprises a transmitter and the control circuit also produces a return signal that is transmitted to the interrogator via the transmitter to provide tracking data for the electronic apparatus.